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C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 16869

E.O. 11652: GDS

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SUBJ: JAPAN-MONGOLIA RELATIONS

SUMMARY: RECENT MONGOLIAN DELEGATION VISIT TO TOKYO PERMITTED REVIEW OF JAPANESE-MONGOLIAN RELATIONS AND SOME PROGRESS ON ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE JAPAN PLANS TO PROVIDE ULAN BATOR, INITIALLY, IN CONSTRUCTING A CASHMERE/CAMEL HAIR FACTORY. TO JAPANESE EMBARRASSMENT, MONGOLIANS PROPOSED CONCLUDING NUMEROUS TREATIES, INCLUDING A PEACE FRIENDSHIP TREATY, CONSULAR TREATY, AND TECHNOLOGICAL EXCHANGE TREATY, ALL OF WHICH, JAPANESE SUGGESTED, WERE UNNECESSARY. MONGOLIANS EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH CURRENT CULTURAL EXCHANGE AND GROWTH IN TRADE. WHILE REPORTS FROM JAPANESE EMBASSY BEAR OUT HARSH LIVING CONDITIONS IN ULAN BATOR, MONGOLIANS SEEM TO BE ADJUSTING WELL TO TOKYO AND ACTIVELY ARE EDUCATING THEMSELVES ABOUT THE OUTSIDE WORLD. END SUMMARY.

1. VISIT LAST MONTH BY MONGOLIAN DELEGATION HEADED BY P. TSERENTSOODOL,

A MEMBER OF COLLEGIUM OF MONGOLIAN FONOFF, RENEWED IMPETUS IN LANGUID

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BUT SATISFACTORY RELATIONS BETWEEN JAPAN AND PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

OF MONGOLIA (MPR). VISIT WAS AT INVITATION OF JAPANESE FONOFF. MONGOLIANS CONTINUED TO PRESS FOR JAPANESE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, IMPLIED IN COMMUNIQUE ESTABLISHING DEPLOMATIC RELATIONS IN JANUARY 1974, IN LIEU OF 50 MILLION DOLLARS REPARATIONS PACKAGE INITIALLY SOUGHT BY MONGOLIANS. AS RESULT OF UNHURRIED EXCHANGE OVER THE MONTHS, CHINA DIVDIR FUJITA EXPLAINED TO US THAT GOJ ABANDONED CUSTOMARY POLICY WHICH CALLS FOR PROVISION OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FOR TWO INFRA-STRUCTURAL PROJECTS AND NOT FOR PRODUCTION FACILITIES WITH PROFIT POTENTIAL AND AGREED TO TRY TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR TWO OF THE FIFTEEN PROJECTS PROPOSED BY ULAN BATOR. MONGOLIANS TOLD JAPANESE REPEATEDLY THAT ASSISTANCE FROM "SOCIALIST" COUNTRIES IS FINE FOR INFRASTRUCTURE BUT ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY IS AVAILABLE ONLY FROM CAPITALIST COUNTRIES. JAPANESE SELECTED FOR POSSIBLE SUPPORT CASHMERE CAMEL HAIR PROCESSING FACTORY AND A FACTORY FOR PRODUCING FLAT AND BOTTLE GLASS (DURING AUGUST VISIT BY ASIAN AFFAIRS BUREAU DEPDIRGEN OMORI, FEASIBILITY STUDIES CONCLUDED TWO PROJECTS, INCLUDING PLANTS, TRANSPORTATION VIA NAKHODKA, AND JAPANESE TECHNICIANS TO TRAIN MONGOLIANS IN MONGOLIA, WOULD COST \$23 MILLION DOLLARS. IN NUMBER OF SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS BETWEEN FONOFF AND FINANCE MINISTRY, FINANCE HAS INSISTED THAT SUCH AN AMOUNT FOR 1.4 MILLION MONGOLIANS IS DISPROPORTIONATE. FINANCE OFFERED 10 MILLION DOLLARS INSTEAD.) DURING TSERENTSODOL VISIT, AGREEMENT WAS TENTATIVELY REACHED TO TRY TO PROCEED WITH

THE CASHMERE/CAMEL HAIR PROCESSING PROJECT. FONOFF DID NOT REVEAL TO MONGOLIANS PAUCITY OF FUNDS WOULD AT LEAST DELAY SECOND PROJECT. TALKS ARE CONTINUING WITH FINANCE.

2. TO SURPRISE AND EMBARRASSMENT OF JAPANESE, TSERENTSODOL PROPOSED A NUMBER OF BI-LATERAL TREATIES BETWEEN MONGOLIA AND JAPAN. TO PROPOSAL FOR A PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP TREATY, JAPANESE INSISTED THAT RELATIONS WERE FULLY NORMALIZED AND QUITE SATISFACTORY ON CURRENT BASIS. MONGOLIANS THEN DOWNGRADED THEIR PROPOSAL AND SOUGHT, UNSUCCESSFULLY, A "COMMUNIQUE" PLEDGING RESPECT FOR NUMBER OF LOFTY PRINCIPLES. TO PROPOSED CONSULAR TREATY, JAPANESE, FUJITA SAID, EXPLAINED THAT JAPAN ONLY HAD CONSULAR TREATIES WITH THREE NATIONS (USSR, UK, AND US) REQUIRED BY VERY SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES, JAPANESE POINTED OUT THAT THERE IS ONLY NEGLIGIBLE TRAFFIC BETWEEN MONGOLIA AND JAPAN AND TREATY IS NOT NECESSARY. CONFIDENTIAL

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MONGOLIANS THEN PROPOSED A TREATY OF TECHNOLOGICAL EXCHANGE. JAPANESE SKIRTED THIS ONE BY INSISTING THAT SAME COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH EITHER A CULTURAL EXCHANGE AGEEMENT ALREADY CONCLUDED OR UNDER A TRADE AGEEMENT, WHICH GOJ PROPOSED. NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEGUN ON TRADE AGEEMENT BUT ARE PROCEEDING SLOWLY, FUJITA SAID. BECAUSE OF MONGOLIAN INEXPERIENCE AND LANGUAGE DIFFICULTIES.

3. IN OTHER FIELDS, MONGOLIANS AGREED RELATIONS WERE DEVELOPING

SATISFACTORILY. UNDER FY'75 CULTURAL AGREEMENT A MONGOLIAN LANGUAGE TEACHER FOR TOKYO FOREIGN LANGUAGE UNIVERSITY AND TWO MONGOLIAN STUDENTS HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO JAPAN. TWO JAPANESE STUDENTS AND A JAPANESE LANGUAGE TEACHER HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE MONGOLIAN STATE UNIVERSITY. GOJ HAS DESPATCHED A NUMBER OF ARCHEOLOGISTS TO MONGOLIA TO HELP UNEARTH MONGOLIAN HISTORY. IN ADDITION, UNDER SHORT TERM EXCHANGE PROGRAMS, THREE MONGOLIAN PROFESSORS ARE TO VISIT JAPAN TO PROMOTE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING IN THE CULTURAL FIELD. THREE JAPANESE SCIENTISTS ARE TO GO TO ULAN BATOR FOR JOINT SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGE. ALSO CALLED FOR, BUT NOT YET CARRIED OUT ARE: A) JAPANESE WRESTLERS TO PARTICIPATE IN INTERNATIONAL FREE-STYLE WRESTLING COMPETITION IN ULAN BATOR; B) FILEM EXCHANGES; C) SCIENTIFIC BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS EXCHANGE; D) COOPERATION IN JOINT PUBLICATION OF MONGOLIAN BOOKS.

4. TRADE HAS BEEN GROWING SLOWLY, TOTALLING AROUND ONE MILLION US DOLLARS ANNUALLY 1970-72, INCREASING TO \$1.6 MILLION US IN 1973 AND \$1.8 MILLION US IN 1974. IMBALANCE IS IN ULAN BATOR'S FAVOR (\$264 THOUSAND IN 1973 AND \$747 THOUSAND IN 1974). IN 1973 TRADE, AUTOMOBILE TIRES AND TUBES ACCOUNTED FOR 67 PERCENT OF JAPAN'S EXPORTS TO MONGOLIA AND TEXTILES ACCOUNTED FOR ANOTHER 15 PERCENT. AMONG IMPORTS TO JAPAN, 38 PERCENT WERE HORSE AND CAMEL HAIR, 30 PERCENT ANIMAL SKINS, AND 24 PERCENT CASHMERE.

5. CHINA DIVISION OFFICER INFORMED US THAT JAPANESE FIND PRIMITIVE CONDITIONS IN ULAN BATOR VERY DIFFICULT. PERIODIC RUNS ARE MADE TO PEKING FOR FRESH VEGETABLES AND JAPANESE AMBASSADOR ITARU TSUGE HAD A HOTHOUSE CONSTRUCTED ON THE EMBASSY GROUNDS WHERE HE RAISES RADISHES. HEALTH CONDITIONS ARE HAZARDOUS BUT JAPANESE DO NOT DARE CONSULT MONGOLIAN DOCTORS ABOUT AILMENTS AND VISIT, INSTEAD, THE RUSSIAN DOCTOR AT THE SOVIET EMBASSY.

6. WE HAVE OBSERVED THAT MONGOLIANS FIND TOKYO MORE ENTERTAINING
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AND INSTRUCTIVE. UK AMBASSADOR DESCRIBED TO DCM MPR AMBASSADOR DAMBADARJAA, WHOM HE KNEW IN LONDON, AS BRIGHT AND CONGENIAL. AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY BRIEFS MPR EMBOFF REGULARLY ON AUSTRALIAN ASSESSMENT OF DOMESTIC JAPANESE AND INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS. MONGOLIANS ARE REGULAR CALLERS AT FONOFF CHINA/ MONGOLIA DIVISION AND CHINA DIVDIR FUJITA TOLD US THEY ASK POINTED QUESTIONS ABOUT SINO-JAPANESE RELATIONS WHICH RUSSIANS, FOR WHOM MONGOLIANS ARE PRESUMED TO BE SURROGATES, DO NOT DARE. FURTHER DISPLAYING THEIR CURIOSITY ABOUT THE OUTSIDE WORLD, MONGOLIAN EMBOFF AT RECENT CONFERENCE SOUGHT EMBOFF'S VIEWS ON US-JAPANESE RELATIONS. SEPARATELY, MONGOLIAN TOLD SINGAPOREAN PARTICIPANT IN CONFERENCE HE DID NOT UNDERSTAND WHY MONGOLIA AND US DID NOT HAVE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.
HODGSON

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